

# Kansas State CollegeGrad

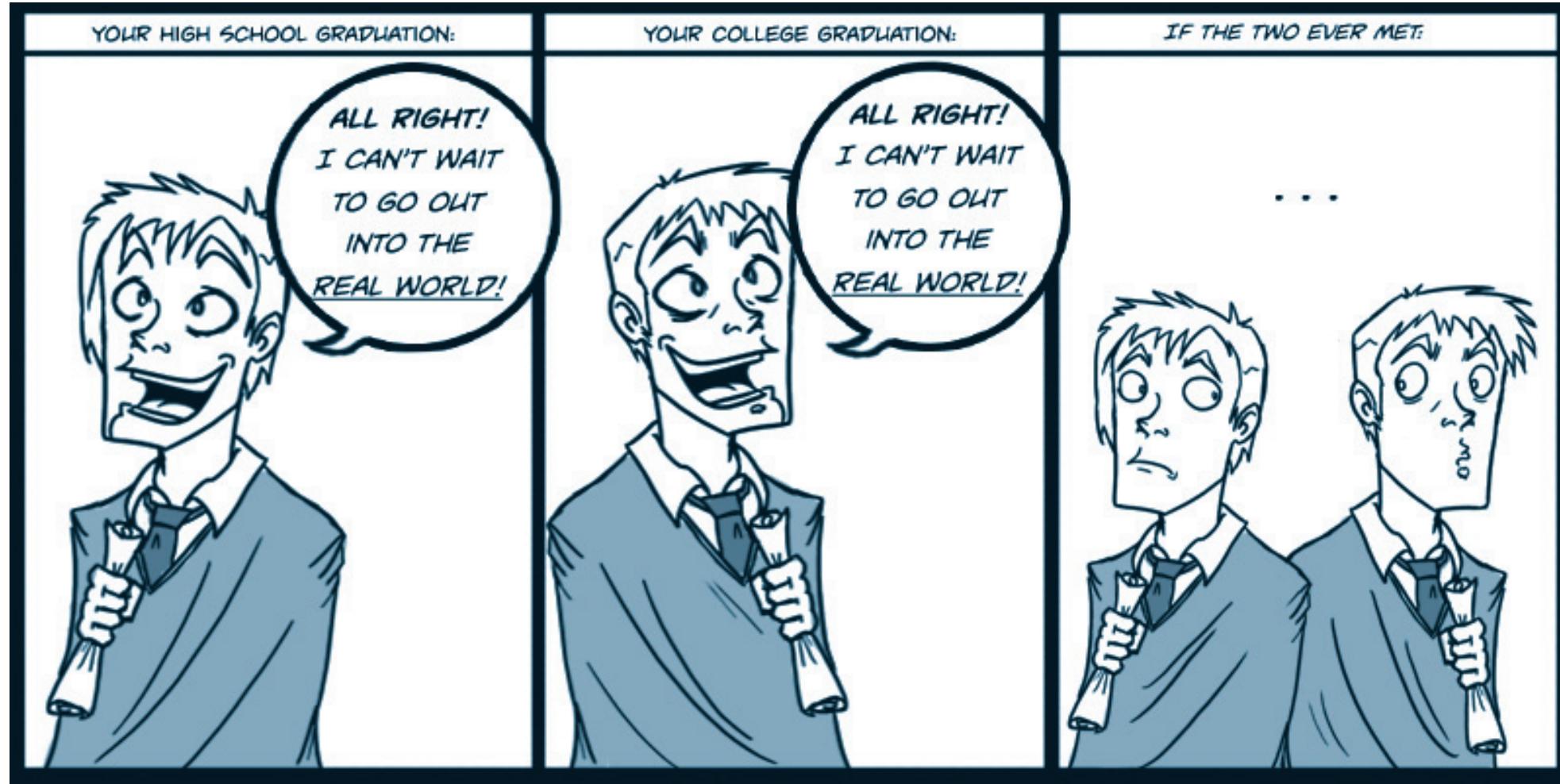


photo courtesy of B(D)way(D)ia

## GRADUATION GUIDE

- 03 CES can help you find a job
- 05 Check out our reviews
- 06 Graduation gift ideas

## For The Win | By Parker Wilhelm



## To our graduating seniors: What does the Collegian mean to you?

"The Collegian has been a really important source of self-actualization for me. The opinion page was a way to participate in deliberative democracy, and a conduit to connect with the K-State community. It helped build my confidence, and beefed up my resume. I hope that I persuaded some, but if not, that's OK too. EPAW."

Beth Mendenhall  
Columnist

"My experience at the Collegian, especially this semester, has been more enjoyable than any other college venture in which I have participated. The paper is filled with dedicated and upstanding people who added to the pleasure and worth of my time at K-State. I will never miss the deadlines, but I will miss the people."

Sam Diederich  
News Editor

"The Collegian means to me that I get to do stuff now. What I mean by that is that a lot of college students - especially in journalism - talk about what they want to do for jobs after they graduate, but it's like there's just no way to do it at this time. No degree, no job. At least not a paying one. But with the Collegian, it's not like that. I get to actually write stories and take photos for a real publication that really publishes them and really pays me. Fah real. So, that's pretty cool."

Tiffany Roney  
Staff Writer

"The Collegian has broadened my horizons, literally. Getting to travel east to New York for the Pinstripe Bowl and west to Arizona to cover the NCAA basketball tournament were unforgettable memories. The other key memories involve the late nights with an awesome staff going crazy from sleep deprivation."

Stephanie Carr  
Sports and Multimedia Editor



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Kyle C. White**

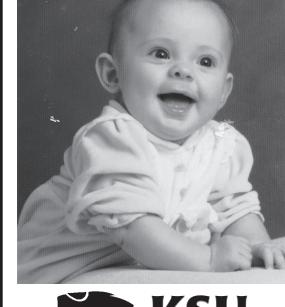
Congratulations!  
Love,  
Mom and Dad



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Stephanie Smith**

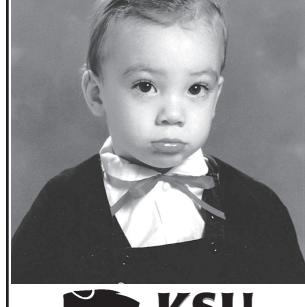
Congratulations!  
We are very proud of you!  
Love,  
Your Family



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Chelsea Marie Brown**

Congratulations! We are so proud of you. Don't ever stop believing in yourself.  
Love, Mom and Randy



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Luke A. Mueller**

Congratulations, we are so proud of you. Love, Mom, Dad, Monica, Todd, Darren, Andrea, Andrew, Mikey and family.



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Kyle Dean Waldie**

You have come a long way.  
We are so proud of your accomplishments.  
Love, Mom, Dad and Torrie



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Christopher Jobman Morris**

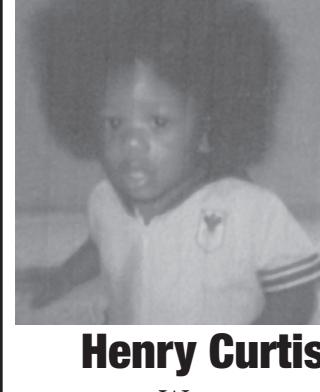
Congrats!  
So proud of "da boy"  
Love, Mom



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Kari Lindeen**

Congratulations to an AWESOME graduate!  
All our love,  
Mom and Dad, Bree and Josh



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Henry Curtis Huguley Jr.**

We are very proud of you  
and all that you have accomplished.  
Love, Mom, Dad, Angie & Tina



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Cassandra Silveira**

Yee Ha! You did it!  
We are so proud of all your accomplishments.  
Love, Mom, Dad, Denni and Blake



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Morgan Marie Twombly**

Congratulations!  
We are so proud of you.  
Love, Dad and Mom,  
Tay and Jay



**10% OFF next purchase  
with mention of this ad!**

★ We make special orders ★

Your Western Store since 1976

**ROYAL PURPLE**  
yearbook  
we've got the stories you've got to read.

Get your Royal Purple yearbook  
in Kedzie 103, or call 532-6555.

**GRADUATION  
PACKAGE:**

Smoked Brisket • Pulled Pork  
Redskin Potato Salad • Smokehouse Beans  
BBQ Sauce, Pickles & Buns

Plates, utensils, napkins included  
24 hour notice required; 10 person minimum

**\$9.99**

per person pick up

**\$10.99**

per person delivered



785.539.0770

coxbbq.com

223 McCall Rd.

Manhattan

# CES resources help graduates find jobs, even in time crunch

**Abby Belden**  
copy manager

Graduating students will don their cap and gowns for graduation and then trade in college years for a career in the job market.

With the stress of finding employment comes the question of the economy and the number of jobs it can offer.

According to a press release on April 14 from the National Association of Colleges and Employers, employers will be hiring about 19 percent of college graduates this year compared to last year. The areas with the highest plans to hire are careers in finance, real estate, oil and gas extraction companies, chemical manufacturers and computer and electronics manufacturers.

What about the students who have yet to secure a job, or have yet to start searching for a job?

While the best time to start looking for a job is up to a year, if not more, leading up to the graduation date, some students have a lot going on, said Kerri Day Kellar, director for Career and Employment Services.

"I do recognize that students have a very full plate, and those that are working while going to school because they need to for financial reasons may not be able to devote some of the time they need to between classes and doing what is necessary in terms of their job search," Kellar said.

If students find themselves in a time crunch or have fallen to procrastination, there are plenty



Photos by Jennifer Heeke | Collegian

**Marta Blecha** (left), sophomore in elementary education and **Amber Engelbert** (right), sophomore in elementary education grab free ice cream outside of Holtz Hall on Apr. 28 during the Career and Employment Services "Cool Treats, Hot Jobs" event.

of resources at CES to help. To avoid the pitfalls of procrastination or a time crunch, it is best for students to start networking and becoming involved on

campus and looking for internships when they are in the early stages of their college career, Kellar said.

Many of the colleges on

campus have career advisers who work as liaisons and helps students in specific colleges. Karl Kandt, assistant director for Career and Employment

Services and liaison to the College of Arts and Sciences and College of Architecture, Planning and Design, offers students in these areas of study help.

Kandt works as a career adviser for CES and said he helps students develop or revise their resumes, provides interviewing tips and techniques and tools and resources for successful internship experiences and job

Career advisers will be available throughout the summer for those graduates who may need assistance in their job seeking efforts, whether it is starting at square one with developing a resume, or polishing interview skills.

Students can also log into their CES account at [k-state.edu/ces/](http://k-state.edu/ces/) and search for jobs in their industry and desired location. The 'Helpful websites' option on the CES site gives students the ability to search top career sites or job sites by geographic location, and also offers salary and occupation information.

For those who have secured a job, the transition from backpack to briefcase can be a little challenging.

"As a new grad going into the work place, I think you want to be about what else can you do to help."

**Kerri Day Kellar**  
Director for Career and Employment Services

searches.

Career advisers can help graduates search for jobs and prepare them for interviews. Kandt also said it is important to think outside of one's major.

"Think outside of the box with regard to the application of your skills in different types of careers, not just your major," Kandt said.

As a new grad going into the work place, I think you want to be about what else can you do to help," Kellar said. "I guess saying 'yes' more than 'no' to other opportunities and responsibilities that might come your way."

Networking can get a student in the door, but Kandt said,

"Once you arrive in the room, make sure you can sell yourself and your skills. Keeping options open and marketing your particular skills to many careers is also important."



**Grace Kim**, senior in biology and secondary education listens to employees of Career and Employment Services while eating ice cream outside of Holtz Hall on Apr. 28.



**KSU**  
Class of '11

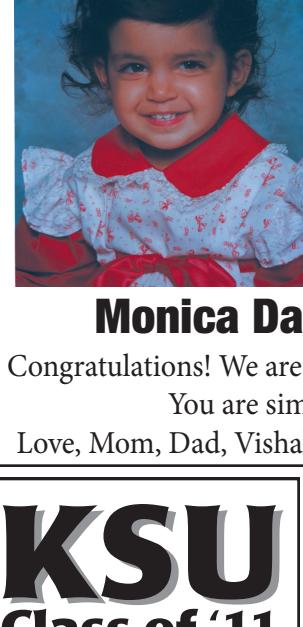


**Roger Cody Bost**

Congratulations.

Love, Mom, Dad and Kyle

You can accomplish all things through Christ.



**KSU**  
Class of '11



**Monica Dava Khurana**

Congratulations! We are so proud of you, my dear.

You are simply the best!

Love, Mom, Dad, Vishal, Grandma and Grandpa



**KSU**  
Class of '11



**Brooke Laurel Garlow**

Congratulations, honey! You did an amazing job

and we are so proud of you!

Love, Dad, Mom & Nathan



**KSU**  
Class of '11

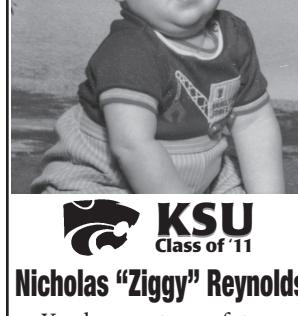
**Drew McIntyre**

You did it!

Son, we are so proud of you.

Love,

Mom & Dad



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Nicholas "Ziggy" Reynolds**

You have put your future in good hands - your own.

You earned this!

Love, Mom, Dad and Christine



**KSU**  
Class of '11



**Jessica Blasi**

Congratulations, Jessie! We are so proud of you.

Good luck at Grad School.

Love, Mom, Dad and Jisel



Rockhill Chiropractic &

Acupuncture

Dr. Kristine Springer

305 Ft. Riley Blvd.

Manhattan, KS

785-587-0300

Open M, W, TH, F

[www.rockhillchiropractic.net](http://www.rockhillchiropractic.net)



**4**  
**olives**  
0000  
WINE BAR

785.539.1295

3033 anderson ave.  
manhattan, kansas

open everyday  
5pm - 11pm

special hours  
May 14  
open 11am - 11pm

new dining space up to 70  
reservations welcomed



[www.4olives.biz](http://www.4olives.biz)

the perfect place to  
celebrate  
your  
graduation



handcrafted menu created by  
executive chef - owner  
Scott Benjamin



700 bottle wine list  
well executed classic cocktails

**Got a  
News Tip or Story Idea?**

Call 785.532.6556 or e-mail: [collegian@spub.ksu.edu](mailto:collegian@spub.ksu.edu)

## Employers look for leadership, verbal communication skills



**Paula Peters** (left), assistant director for K-State Research and Extension office, talks with **Laura Carlson** (right), senior in family studies about summer internships during the Common Good Internship/Career Fair Mar. 2 in the K-State Student Union Ballroom.

### Applicants should emphasize abilities when applying, interviewing

**Tiffany Roney**  
senior staff writer

With graduation quickly approaching, many students are turning their focus from pleasing their professors to meeting the standards of future employers.

Mary Ellen Barkley, assistant director for Career and Employment Services, said one of the key skills most employers look for is the ability to communicate verbally. According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, other noted abilities include: to analyze quantitative data, to have proficiency with computer software programs and to edit written reports.

Even though NACE's list of important qualities might seem too general or broad, Barkley said it is important that students provide evidence of some of those skills.

"For example, students would want to demonstrate times when they've been able to communicate effectively with others, whether that's through making presentations or whatever skill set they have," Barkley said.

Another tactic students can use is to tailor their resumes and portfolios to each employer.

"Rather than just having one resume that you don't ever alter, you need to, every time before you send it out

to a specific employer, really ask the question, 'Okay, now is this showcasing the skills that this employer is looking for in the best way?'" Barkley said.

While resume materials are essential when applying for a job, another important part of the application process is the interview. Barkley said CES offers online and hardcopy versions of interview guide resources, as well as appointments for students to learn how to interview well.

**"I think past experience is really beneficial."**

**Kevin Adams**  
Freshman in Business Administration

"We're able to help them review their resumes, to practice interviews, certainly looking for jobs and internships, even after they graduate," Barkley said. "So, I think that's a key point for people to know — that we can help them even after they are graduated. They can still keep their CES account active and work with our advisers."

While Barkley spoke of the process in preparation for the actual interview, Kevin Adams, freshman in business administration, said he considers prior work one of the primary features employers seek.

"I think past experience is really beneficial," Adams said. "I think that's one reason why it might be good to work through college, so you have work experience as opposed to just being like, 'I have this degree.' If you can be like, 'I did well here,' you have more credentials, as opposed to just having an education."

Annika Schneider, freshman in music education and Spanish, said she thinks employers look for something that sets the prospective employee apart from the rest of the applicants.

"For me, in the education field, if I'm fluent in Spanish, then I can reach more students, so I think that's something that will set you apart and make you more marketable," Schneider said.

Barkley said a high grade point average shows employers that the student has a measure of seriousness and aims to succeed, but she said it is also important to have involvement in activities or related fields of work, especially when the involvement entails some form of leadership.

"I think it's not so much about having a long list of 30 activities, but it's more important to really have some in-depth experience with a smaller number," Barkley said. "Any time that you can get leadership experience at any point, I think those are the critical skills that are going to help — to build some activities or related work experience, in addition to your coursework."

## Hiring rates for college graduates up 19 percent since last year

### Average starting salaries up 3.5 percent, graduates still struggle to find jobs

**Tiffany Roney**  
senior staff writer

Now, more than ever, college graduates are opting out of spreading their wings and are, instead, returning to the nest. With movies like "Failure to Launch" depicting the woes of moving back into the parents' basement and cultural critics writing of the "boomerang generation" phenomenon, the options for 2011 graduates are not always depicted in the best light.

Annika Schneider, freshman in music education and Spanish, said she is already aiming to do all she can to increase her value to future employers.

"It's a little nerve-wracking, especially with music education, how the arts are being cut, so I've just been taking extra precautions," Schneider said. "I'm getting a Spanish degree with that just to give myself some job security."

Kevin Adams, freshman in business administration, said he knows several people who are unable to find jobs.

"It certainly helps to have a college degree, but it's not going to give you a shoe-in anymore," Adams said. "I certainly know people that have gone and gotten an education somewhere and then ended up not doing anything related to that. They couldn't find a job

in that field or whatever; they ended up doing something else."

Despite these trends, Mary Ellen Barkley, assistant director for Career & Employment Services, said the economy is actually starting to swing back up.

"I think it looks as though the economy is improving; if employers are actually hiring

**"The more you can connect with people in your future field of interest, the more you will learn about it, and the greater your chances of finding work in that area."**

**Mary Ellen Barkley**  
Assistant Director,  
Career and Employment Services

more, then there would probably be less need for that kind of thing," Barkley said.

According to a press release from the National Association of Colleges and Employers, the average starting salary for the class of 2011 is up 3.5 percent in comparison to the average starting salary for the class of 2010. This year is the first time since 2008 that a college class has begun the year with an average starting salary offer that is higher than the year before,

according to the NACE press release. The rate of employers hiring new college graduates is up 19 percent this year, and intern hiring has increased by 7 percent.

Barkley said students could demonstrate their value to an organization by finding a part-time or temporary job that is in line with the student's long-term goals. She said many work opportunities provide the chance to build transferable skills like communication, teamwork and problem solving.

Even if students are not immediately finding paid work in the field of their choice, Barkley said they might gain valuable experience and networking opportunities by volunteering in those fields. She said she wanted to encourage students to join local chapters of the professional organization or alumni chapter that corresponds to their majors.

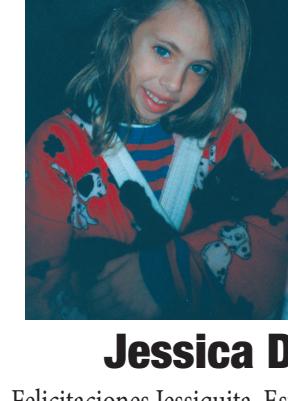
"The more you can connect with people in your future field of interest, the more you will learn about it, and the greater your chances of finding work in that area," Barkley said.

Whether or not students choose to join these sorts of organizations, Barkley said students should network by telling everyone they know that they are seeking a job.

"You don't have to ask them for a job, but talk with them about what you are looking for," Barkley said. "Often it is those unexpected connections that can help you get your foot in the door."



**Sergeant Weber** (left), officer in the Johnson County Police Department talks to **Brian Huston** (middle), senior in human resource management and **Connor Hickey** (right), sophomore in business, during the Common Good Internship/Career Fair in the K-State Student Union Grand Ballroom March 2.



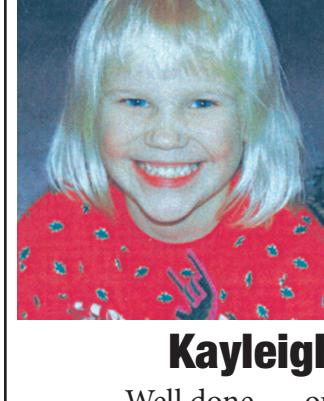
**KSU**  
Class of '11



**Jessica D. Rodriguez**

Felicitaciones Jessiquita. Estamos muy bendecidos contigo.  
Nos traes mucha alegría y nos trajiste a Midnight :)

Mom, Dad, Lisa, Matias, Granma, Floyd, Roxy & Emilio



**KSU**  
Class of '11



**Kayleigh Koster**

Well done . . . out in four years!  
Congratulations and EMAW.

Love, Mom and Dad, Chase and Allison

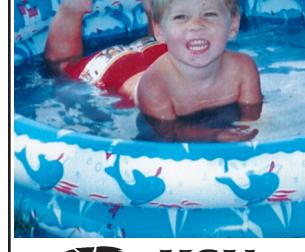


**KSU**  
Class of '11



**Alyssa Nicole Sams**

I am proud of everything you have accomplished.  
Your hopes, dreams and wishes are waiting for you. Love, Mom



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Logan Bradley Burditt**

This is just the beginning – Soar high; the sky is the limit!

We love you!

Mom, Dad and Lyle

**Shop Daisy**  
Retail for Women

**Now Open!**

New Fashion in  
Manhattan, Ks

312 Tuttle Creek Blvd. Suite C (Next to Forever 21 Nails)

785-539-9997

**Congrats**  
Grads

From the

**1FRIDGE**  
WHOLESALE LIQUOR

**\$5**  
OFF ALL pre ordered KEGS

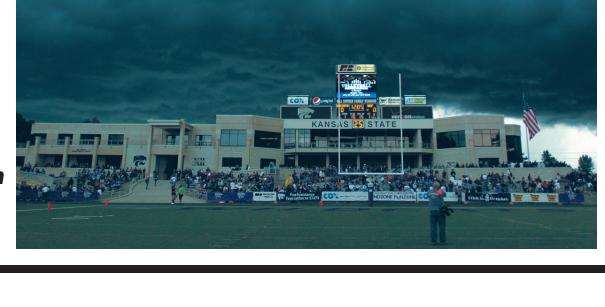
May 9–14

**Perfect  
Gift  
Idea!**

Now you can buy the photos you see in the Collegian.

[photos.kstatecollegian.com](http://photos.kstatecollegian.com)

Kansas State  
collegian



## Gamers will be 'GLaDOS' if they get sequel to successful game

"Portal 2"



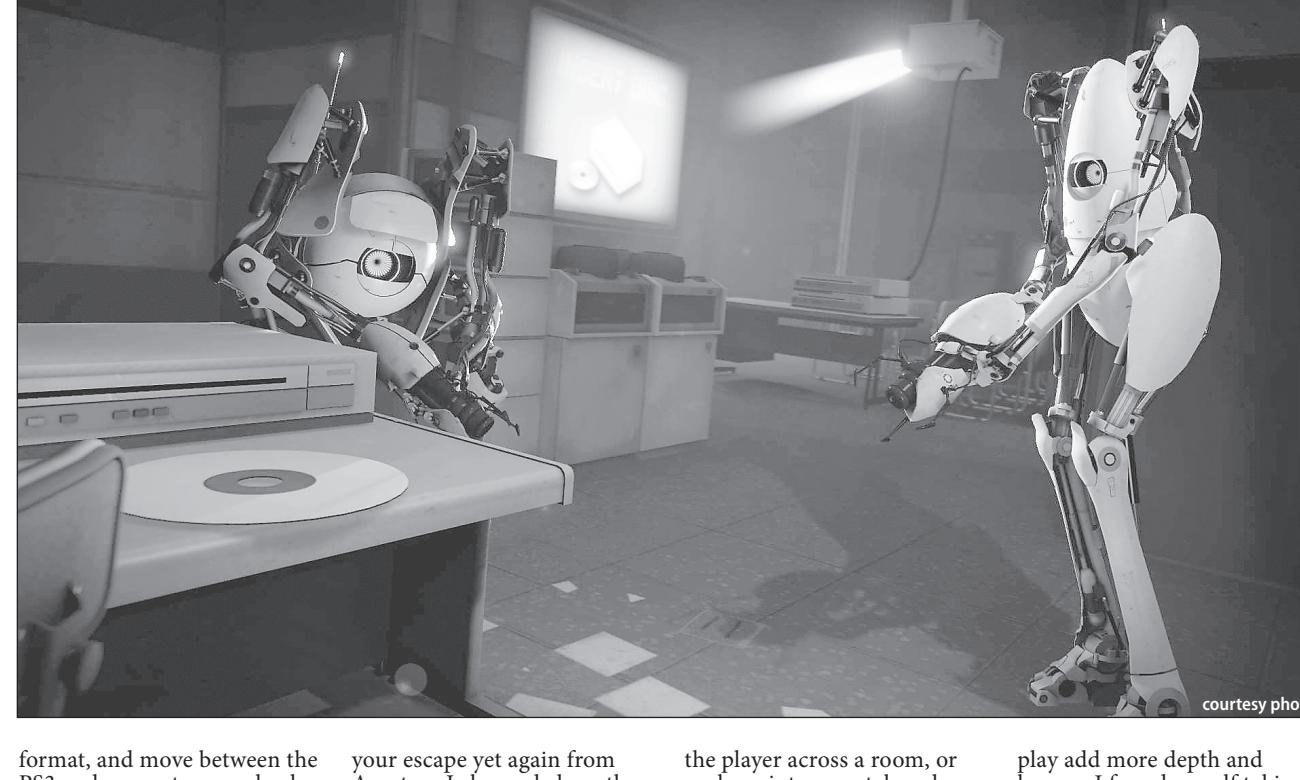
Game review by Jayson Sharp

The test results are in: you're probably going to buy "Portal 2." After the huge success of the first "Portal" game that was attached to "The Orange Box" game pack from Valve, gamers have been waiting with bated breath for the sequel. The series has humble beginnings, and a simple concept, but the game is so much more than just a gun that shoots paired portals.

In this shiny new sequel, Valve has brought us a few new things to play around with. For one, there is a single player campaign that continues the story from the

It's genius how they put these puzzles together in such a way that you have to work together to solve the riddle.

first game. There is also a cooperative campaign where each player is given their own portal gun to wield, but the most interesting feature of the cooperative campaign is the "cloud gaming" feature. This allows players on a PS3, a PC or a Mac computer to play together. You can also save your games in this same



courtesy photo

format, and move between the PS3 and computer seamlessly. Though at the moment the PlayStation Network is down and prevents online play from that console, players can still play split-screen on the same console, or co-op over the Steam network.

The single player campaign is superb. The intro levels where Valve has to teach new players how the game works are made fun through quirky dialogue and actions. You start the game by making

your escape yet again from Aperture Labs, and along the way you get to meet some old enemies and make new friends. The puzzles start out simple and ramps up in difficulty as the game goes on. At about halfway through the game, I became worried that I had come to the end, but I was thrown for a loop and spent the next several hours playing through to an epic finish.

There are several new mechanics and objects added to "Portal 2." Faith plates launch

the player across a room, or perhaps into a portal, and can provide for some high flying puzzle solving. Throughout the game you get to utilize all the different gadgets to solve the puzzles. The voice acting and music set the tone. The intercom that talks to you becomes a character unto itself, explaining the history of Aperture, how puzzles work or even just humorous anecdotes. The angry comments of a vengeful GLaDOS following you along as you

play add more depth and humor. I found myself taking my time on the puzzles just to hear what jabbing comment GLaDOS would say next.

The next portion of "Portal 2" is the cooperative campaign. The cooperative play consists of five level packs with several puzzles per pack. At a steady clip, my friend and I were able to complete one of the packs of levels in 40 minutes, and that allows for the obligatory moments where we each used our portal to kill

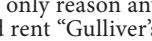
the other. Each player takes the form of bipedal robots complete with personalities, and GLaDOS uses that against you. While you are playing, she will comment on your progress, compare you to humans, praise one of you over the other and generally try to get you to kill each other. The puzzles are brilliant. At one point, one player would place two portals, one on the floor the other on the ceiling, and the other robot jumps in them and picks up speed. The first robot then switches his portal and launches the second onto a ledge to collect a box. It's genius how they put these puzzles together in such a way that you have to work together to solve the riddle.

"Portal 2" is a great title that comes on every console except the Wii. If you buy it for the PS3 you get a free copy for your computer. It's a title that has a simple concept, but uses that concept in ways that many would never perceive. Anyone can pick up this title and start playing. It's rated for everyone above the age of 10, and that is everyone that should give this game a shot. The voice acting, the musical ambience, the scenery and the mechanics make this game a little more than just pixels on the screen. They make it an experience.

Jayson Sharp is a senior in computer science. Send comments to [edge@pub.ksu.edu](mailto:edge@pub.ksu.edu).

## Characters simplistic, humor falls flat in book's film adaptation

"Gulliver's Travels"



DVD review by Patrick Bales

The only reason anyone should rent "Gulliver's Travels" is if they want to entertain a child under the age of 12. If you want to see it because you're a fan of Jack Black, don't even think about it. Just pretend that this version of "Gulliver's Travels" never existed. The humor is nothing more than a string of wedgie jokes, the characters are too simplistic and Black is stuck being his usual man-child self in the confines of a PG rating.

But if you're renting this to entertain a child, they should get some enjoyment out of it. The simple characters and predictable story will keep them entertained, and most of them are sure to love Black's

shtick since they likely haven't seen him in many movies.

In "Gulliver's Travels," Black plays a mailroom clerk named Lemuel Gulliver. With his fear of putting himself out there, he has been stuck at his job for multiple years.

He hasn't even been able to ask out the attractive female writer (Amanda Peet) he's had a crush on for so long.

However, one night before he heads home, he decides that he's finally going

to make his move. But instead of asking her out, he takes an assignment as a travel writer. Before he knows it, he is off on a boat ride to the Bermuda Triangle. Like most movies where the characters are traveling through the Tri-

angle, Gulliver gets sucked up into the ocean abyss. When he wakes, he finds that he is stuck on an island made up of tiny people.

The script is the weakest part of the film with jokes that continuously fall flat.

As I watched this film, I kept imagining what might have

been going through Black's head when he first read the script. Did he actually laugh at all the dumb lines or was he looking

for something else? Perhaps the words "big-budget" and "star vehicle" were the ones that popped out at him over the dialogue. All actors make these kinds of moves once in awhile. After all, they have to make a living. But



courtesy photo

Black better be careful when selecting his next live-action outing, or he's going to end up with a career that's very similar to his character's career in "Tropic Thunder." He'll be stuck in comedies where the quality of humor is clearly beneath him.

On a brighter note, there are some imaginative moments in "Gulliver's Travels." Sure, the movie rips off the classic "Gulliver's Travels" tale, but the special effects

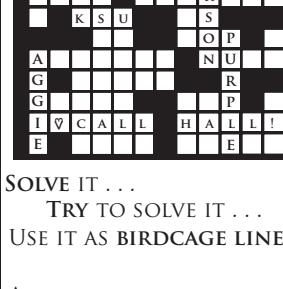
team does a masterful job of bringing the island to life. The city itself is beautifully designed, and there are a number of inventive moments where they play with the size difference between Black and the other townspeople in fascinating ways. The effects are the saving grace of this film. It keeps you engaged when nothing else seems to work.

This film pleasantly surprised me. I was honestly expecting it to be an awful

experience, but what I got instead was a mediocre cash cow. I guess the lesson all of you can take from this is that if you decide to rent "Gulliver's Travels," go at it with the lowest of expectations. That way, all of the disastrous moments are anticipated and the quality effects are able to surprise you.

Patrick Bales is a senior in elementary education. Send comments to [edge@pub.ksu.edu](mailto:edge@pub.ksu.edu).

### THE CROSSWORD?



SOLVE IT . . .

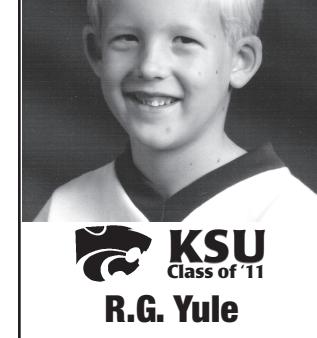
TRY TO SOLVE IT . . .

USE IT AS BIRDCAGE LINER.

ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT . . .

IT JUST WORKS!

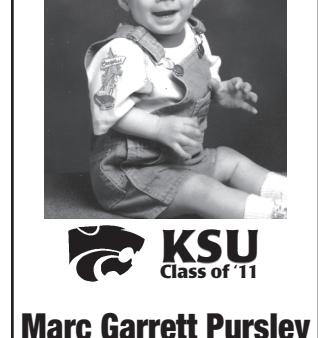
**kansas state**  
**collegian**



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**R.G. Yule**

Congrats!!  
We are very proud of you!!  
Love,  
Mom and Dad



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Marc Garrett Pursley**

Our last little Wildcat!  
Love,  
Mom & Dad



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Veronica Taylor**

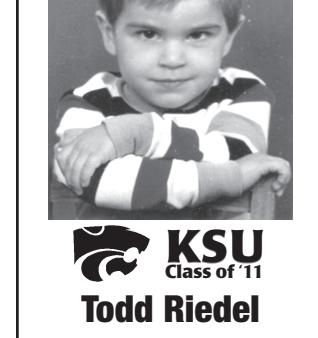
Congratulations!  
We are very proud of you.  
Love,  
Mom, Dad & Sis



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Sara Fultz**

4.0  
WAY TO GO  
Love,  
Mom



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Todd Riedel**

Another joins the WILDCAT family tradition. EMAW!! We are sooo proud of you! Now let's CELEBRATE!!!! Love, Mom and Dad

**Helene Lickteig**

Congratulations to our little princess;  
one night your day will come!

Love, Mom & Dad

**KSU**  
Class of '11



**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Matthew Adam Newman**

You did it! We are so very proud  
of the man you have become.  
Love, Mom, Dad, Meghan, and Kirby

**KSU**  
Class of '11

**Matthew Adam Newman**

You never know  
what you'll find!

**LA FIESTA**

**Monday**  
½ price Margaritas

**Wednesday**  
½ price Beers

**Congrats Grads!**

**Grand Ol' Trunk**  
Thrift Shop & Bookstore  
1304 Pillsbury Dr. • 785-537-2273  
Hwy 177 South

**gear for your life**

**THE NORTH FACE**

**SPECIALIZED**

**patagonia**

**Bikes & Backpacks**

**Clothing & Canoes**

**Fleece & Frisbee golf discs**

**Tents & Travel Gear**

**The PATHFINDER**  
OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT SPECIALISTS

304 Poyntz, Downtown 785-539-5639  
[www.thepathfinder.net](http://www.thepathfinder.net)

**got memories?**

**we do.**

royal purple yearbook  
103 kedzie hall  
785-532-6555 • [royalpurple.ksu.edu](http://royalpurple.ksu.edu)



Nathaniel LaRue | Collegian

## Planning key to successful transition from academic to professional life

The semester is drawing to a close, and for graduating seniors, there are the usual finals and various projects needing attention, but also the added stress of looking for a job or internship and also trying to decipher where you will be living once your lease ends.

Humans are extremely adaptable. We live in freezing weather and hot blistering heat, and if you live in Kansas you can readily say you yearly live in both of these environments. If only transitioning from college to the "real world" was as easy as putting on a coat or shorts to adapt to our surrounding environment.

I personally cannot wait to graduate and walk up and grab that diploma all decked out in my gown and cap, but after graduation begins another chapter of life with new

challenges. I know there are thousands of students in this same situation, so here are some pointers and insight on planning for post-college life.

First, you will want to plan ahead as much as possible to get a head start in competitive job fields. A good place to find out how to do that is through the K-State Career

**Missing class or being late can hurt your grade, but being late for work or not showing up can cost you your career.**

and Employment Services, which is located in Holtz Hall.

It's important to take with you the lessons college has taught you. Missing class

or being late can hurt your grade, but being late for work or not showing up can cost you your career. People will depend on you, and you will be expected to be responsible, so always be prompt.

If you can't get that dream job right after college, try to explore other fields of interest, as there are only so many dream jobs available, and lots of graduates competing with you.

If you have any student loans — and really, who doesn't — it's wise to pay those off as soon as possible since the interest on loans will only grow. If you wait a long time, they will be more difficult to pay off in the long run.

Live within your means. Hopefully you have learned this through college, but being financially savvy can make life much less stress-

ful and easier. Budget your income and see how much you have left over before making any large purchases.

If you are moving after college, you will want to make the move easier by taking with you only what is really important, and by leaving things behind that do not have practical or sentimental value. A good way to do this is by selling or giving away items on Craigslist, or through Facebook Marketplace. Ask managers at local stores if they have free boxes you can have, as this will save some money and is also more eco-friendly.

Keep these tips in mind as you transition to the real world. Take life with a grain of salt, and good luck.

**Frank St. George is a senior in social science. Send comments to edge@spub.ksu.edu.**

Now you can buy the photos you see in the Collegian. photos.ksstatecollegian.com

## Memorable, practical grad gifts popular

Tim Schrag  
editor-in-chief

Finding the perfect gift for graduates is not always an easy task. Jason Orr, senior in biological and chemical engineering, said he has given a gift that has backfired.

Orr said he recently gave a gag gift to a December 2010 graduate that was not immediately funny. Orr said he gave a hat that read "Number One Dad" to his friend in front of both his friend's girlfriend and her parents and described his friend's reaction as "textbook shock."

"I walked in, said happy graduation and presented him with the hat," Orr said. "It was only after then that he introduced the three people around him: the girlfriend, who I'd never met, her mother and her father. He was speechless, the girlfriend was laughing and her parents were very confused."

Orr also happens to be a May 2011 candidate for graduation. He said to give a proper gift one needs to know what is meaningful to the graduate. Orr added he does not know exactly what he wants for graduation, but any kind of K-State memento would be appreciated.

Carolyn Rose, manager of the K-State Student Union Bookstore, said popular gifts this semester include photos of K-State sporting venues like Bramlage Coliseum and Bill Snyder Family Stadium, but classic gifts include desk accessories, business card holders, jewelry for ladies and gift certificates to the bookstore. However, one of the most popular gifts is the graduation frame for a degree.

"I think students are looking for something nice that they can remember the university by," Rose said. "Rose also suggested that consumers who purchase large or difficult-to-handle items should wait until a few days prior to a graduation ceremony. Rose said that while the rush for gifts comes several days leading to graduation ceremonies, the bookstore will not run out of frames.

Megan Papenfus, senior in journalism and mass communications and December candidate for graduation, said she is looking for more practical gifts as opposed to mementos.

"I'm looking for gift cards for places that the items I will need for my new apartment," Papenfus said.

### college life



reported in the Collegian, soon owned by you

**kansas state collegian**



**KSU Class of '11**



**Michelle Nicole Neal**

Congratulations—you did it!

We are so very proud of you and your success!

Love, Mom and Dad



**KSU Class of '11**



**Rachel Ann Weber**

"Wherever you go, go with all your heart!"

(Confucius)

We are so proud of you! Your family



**KSU Class of '11**



**20% Off**

**all**

**wines**

**Sale ends**

**May 31<sup>st</sup> 2011!**

1338 Westloop Place

785-539-9441

Due to state law some restrictions apply



**Serving Manhattan for 33 years**

**"Your Repair Specialists"**

• Purses	Repairing	• Shoes
• Leather Coats		• Luggage
• Harness		• Backpacks
• Ball Gloves		• Boots

785-776-1193 • OPEN 8-5:30 Mon.-Fri., 8-12 Sat.  
216 S. 4th St. • Manhattan, KS • VFW Plaza

CORNER OF 4TH & PIERRE

*Celebrations!*

Births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries and retirements of K-State.

Published on the 1st Monday of the following months:  
Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Feb., Mar., Apr. and May.

To submit your FREE Celebration! go to:

[kstatecollegian.com/celebrations](http://kstatecollegian.com/celebrations) or call 785-532-6555.

Deadline is 5 p.m. two days prior to publication date.

